



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Department Name:** Public Health  
**Department No.:** 041  
**For Agenda Of:** December 15, 2020  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Tme:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** 4/5

---

**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Van Do-Reynoso, PhD, Director  
Director(s) Public Health Department  
Contact Info: Kelley Barragan, RN, PHN, MS, Maternal, Child & Adolescent  
Health Director  
805-681-5476

**SUBJECT:** California Home Visiting Program State General Fund Innovation Award

---

**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors consider the following recommendations:

- a) Approve and authorize the Public Health Department (PHD) Director, or designee, to accept and execute the California Home Visiting Program (CHVP) State General Fund Innovation agreement with California Department of Public Health in the amount not to exceed \$1,714,974 for a three year period of January 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023; and
- b) Approve and authorize the PHD Director, or designee, to sign associated certifications as may be required by the California Department of Public Health for this agreement; and
- c) Approve Budget Revision Request BJE 0007310 to amend the Public Health Department Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget to add \$285,463 in new revenue and appropriation to be spent from January 2021 through June 2021; and
- d) Determine that these activities are not a “project” and are exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review per CEQA Guideline Section 15378(b)(4), since the recommended actions are government fiscal activities which do not involve commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

**Summary Text:**

This item is on the agenda to approve and authorize the Public Health Department (PHD) Director, or designee, to accept and execute an allocation agreement in the amount up to \$1,714,974 for three years for California Home Visiting State General Fund Innovation award. The Scope of Work is current

through June 30, 2021, and PHD will return to the Board for approval of the Scope of Work for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

**Background:**

Child abuse is a persistent problem within Santa Barbara County and the entire state. Although it is a hidden social ill, its impact is significant. Child abuse impacts not just the child, but the family, the community, and society at large. While the impact of abuse not only morally devastates our community, it also significantly hurts our economy. In fact, the physical, mental, and emotional effects of abuse persist long after child abuse occurs, and result in ongoing costs to every sector of our community. Child abuse is a significant adverse childhood event (ACE) and a core underlying factor to many of the ongoing struggles of this community, such as high rates of school dropout, homelessness, incarceration, and chronic health issues. The cumulative financial impact to the Santa Barbara community for the 423 verified child victims in 2017 is \$114.6M. Though these costs are accrued over the course of the victim's life, the community will continue to incur the same cost each year until we are able to reduce and ultimately end child abuse.

Early childhood home visiting programs and case-management generally provide new and expectant parents with information, support, referrals to community resources and services, promote good maternal and child health, home safety, food security, and positive parenting skills. Case-management and home visitation interventions in early-life have strong evidence to support the prevention of negative long-term health effects. By investing in upstream prevention programs, like home visiting, we can prevent child abuse and neglect before it can begin. This not only saves taxpayer dollars, but also helps strengthen families and create thriving communities.

Healthy Families America (HFA) is a nationally-recognized, evidence-based home visiting program, launched by Prevent Child Abuse America in 1992. The purpose of HFA is to support new parents from the beginning during pregnancy or at the time their babies are born and, for families facing greater challenges, to offer ongoing home visiting services until the child is age three, and up to age five. HFA is rooted in the belief that early, nurturing relationships are the foundation for life-long, healthy development. HFA delivers home visits to overburdened families, to help parents forge a strong bond with their child despite challenges such as single parenthood, low income, and depression that put children at risk for adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), including abuse and neglect. The HFA model is based upon twelve research-based critical elements and is committed to demonstrating consistent service implementation and quality.

With this grant funding, Santa Barbara County Public Health Department's Maternal, Child & Adolescent Health (MCAH) Program plans to establish a HFA home visiting program with an innovative approach that will focus on improving the health outcomes of the families served, including children and youth with special health care needs (CSHCN), by coordinating episodic case management with a Public Health Nurse (PHN) as needed. MCAH currently has a general field nursing program that provides short-term case management by PHNs and paraprofessional staff for pregnant women, postpartum women, children 0-18 and their families. HFA would be offered to those families that are at risk for child abuse and who would benefit from longer-term more intense case management services to increase positive parenting practices, improve child health, maternal health, child development and

school readiness, and family economic and self-sufficiency. We plan to train and transition existing MCAH paraprofessional staff to be HFA home visitors. An HFA program with episodic case management by a PHN would provide a more intense, longer-term evidence-based home visiting model that is currently not offered in Santa Barbara County. With this addition, families would have a suite of services to choose from based on their needs and goals.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: No

**Fiscal Analysis:**

Approval of the CHVP award and Budget Revision Request BJE 0007310 will add \$285,463 in new revenue and appropriations to the Public Health Department Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget. The total award amount is \$1,714,974 over three fiscal years, beginning January 1, 2021. The awarded amounts are as follows:

- SFY 2020-21: \$285,463
- SFY 2021-22: \$661,206
- SFY 2022-23: \$768,305

In the current fiscal year, the funding will go towards training and application costs of the Healthy Families America program. The award will also fund the expansion and improvement of our data system to evaluate the success of the program. Future years will fund existing staffing, ongoing and additional necessary services and supplies, and ongoing upgrades and maintenance of the data system. These amounts will be built into subsequent years' department Recommended Operating Budget Submissions.

**Staffing Impacts:**

**Legal Positions:**  
0

**FTEs:**  
0

**Special Instructions:**

Please return one (1) certified electronic Minute Order to Kelly Lazarus at [Kelly.Lazarus@sbcphd.org](mailto:Kelly.Lazarus@sbcphd.org)

**Attachments:**

- A. California Home Visiting Project State General Fund Innovation Award
- B. Budget Revision Request BJE #0007310

**Authored by:**

Kelley Barragan, RN, PHN, MS, Maternal, Child & Adolescent Health Director